



SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 6th September

Welcome back to what I am sure will be another busy and successful year here at Hallwood Park! We are delighted to welcome the children back into school and are eager to support students reach their potential in another year at school!

Over the past week, I have spoken to several parents on the playground about their ideas for what we can do as a school to better serve our community. I would like to thank these parents for coming forwards and urge any other parents to do the same. I am looking into a few suggestions already and hope to be able to action the queries as soon as possible!

HUGE WELL DONE to all parents and children as this week our school attendance was **100%**

Let's keep it up!

100%

Our new pedestrian gate and intercom will be up and running properly from Monday.

Please note the following:

- The Car park remains off limits for parents at Hallwood Park
- For pick up and drop off, please continue to bring children to the lower pedestrian gate
- Breakfast club should come through the main entrance, and the gate will be open for them. If it is not, then please use the intercom
- Any late arrivals or early picks ups (including Nursery) should use the intercom to gain admittance to the main entrance

Some Upcoming Dates to be aware of (a full parent calendar will be shared shortly)



- 12th September Ravens start swimming
- 23rd - 25th September Falcons Conway Residential
- 21st October Owls and Ravens Parents' Evening
- 22nd October Kestrels and Falcons Parents' Evening



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We spoke with the children about school uniform in assembly this week. Most children look incredibly smart in their uniform! Please don't forget these two things:

- 1) School shoes should be all black
- 2) No makeup, including nail varnish please

IMPORTANT UPDATE to penalty notices for unauthorised absences

You may or may not be aware that over the summer the Government and Department for Education have announced national, statutory changes to the penalty notices which schools are obliged to issue for unauthorised absences.

Parents should be aware of these changes and note that the school is obliged to follow protocol as follows:

- Penalty notices issued for offences that take place after 19 August 2024 will be charged at a new rate of £160 per parent per child. This can be paid at £80 if paid within 21 days.
- Any second penalty notice issued to the same parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period will be issued at the rate of £160 to be paid within 28 days with no option for a discounted rate.
- The threshold at which a penalty notice must be considered is set at 10 sessions (equivalent to 5 days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10-school week period. This may include absences as a result of arriving late after the register closes. The 10 school weeks may span different terms or school years.
- A maximum of 2 penalty notices may be issued to a parent for the same child within a rolling 3-year period, so at the 3rd (or subsequent) offence(s) another course of action will need to be considered (such as prosecution).
- Only penalty notices issued for absences taking place after 19 August 2024 will count towards the above thresholds.